

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 EUR-12 COME-00 ISO-00

TRSE-00 OIC-02 EA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 H-02 L-02 PA-01 PRS-01 DODE-00

SAJ-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 IOE-00

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O R 171910Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0092

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3884

FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FAO, UN, VN

SUBJECT: WFP/IGC 27TH SESSION: VIETNAM ISSUE

REF: A) ROME 3801

B) MOREY TELCON WITH BAKER, UNP

1. AS EXPECTED, SENEGAL (ENCOURAGED BY SWEDEN) MOVED AT
OPENING OF DEBATE MONDAY AFTERNOON TO ENSURE THAT IGC ACT
POSITIVELY IN SOME WAY CONCERNING POSSIBLE WFP ASSISTANCE TO
PRG OR NORTH VIETNAM. PROCEDURE USED WAS TO ASK CHAIR UNDER
WHAT AGENDA ITEM HE MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE STATEMENT OF VIEWS.

2. CHAIR CONSULTED EXECUTIVE-DIRECTOR AND ADVISED SENEGAL THAT ED
WOULD COMMENT AT END DISCUSSION ITEM 4 (ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ED)
ON WHAT PROGRAM HAD DONE WITH REGARD PARA 52, REPORT OF 26TH IGC,
SINCE LAST SESSION. THIS OBVIOUSLY WOULD OPEN DEBATE ON ANY
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ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL PRESENTED BY SENEGAL.

3. QUESTION OF WHETHER AGENDA COULD THEN BE ADOPTED BECAME CONFUSED WITH SENEGAL WANTING KEEP AGENDA OPEN IN EVENT OF DISSATISFACTION WITH ED EXPLANATION. WHEN ASSURED ED COMMENTS WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE COUNTRIES TO COMMENT ON THIS MATTER, WAY WAS CLEAR FOR ADOPTION AGENDA AND MEETING MOVED ON.

4. THUS, THERE IS NO SPECIFIC ITEM ASSISTANCE PRG ON NORTH VIETNAM AGENDA BUT EXTENSIVE DEBATE APPEARS CERTAIN. IN LIGHT THIS, CONSIDER PRESENT INSTRUCTIONS ADEQUATE. WILL WORK WITH OTHER DELS AND AQUINO AND KEEP DEPARTMENT ADVISED.

5. AS MENTIONED IN REF A) WE STILL ASSUME THAT WILL BE AN ATTEMPT TO GET A DECISION FROM THIS IGC SESSION, GIVING ED AUTHORITY TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FROM NVN AND PRG IF AND WHEN SUCH REQUESTS ARE MADE. U.S. DEL WILL OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL AND ENCOURAGE OTHER DELEGATIONS TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION PER INSTRUCTIONS. IT NOW APPEARS THAT DISCUSSION ON THIS MATTER WILL COMMENCE 3/18.

6. THOUGH POLITICAL RULES OF PROCEDURE CLEARLY PROVIDE FOR VOTING, THE IGC TRADITIONALLY MAKES DECISIONS BY CONSENSUS. IN THIS CASE, PITCH WILL BE BASED ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS WHICH MOST DELEGATES (DC'S AND LDC'S) WILL SUPPORT.

7. U.S. DEL IS PREPARED TO FORCE ISSUE TO RECORDED OF IGC RULES AND PRINCIPLES IN GENERAL AND OPENING WAY FOR WFP AID TO NVN AND PRG IN PARTICULAR SUFFICIENTLY OUTWEIGHS HUMANITARIAN OVERTONES, INCLUDING CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES ON FOREIGN AID. IF FORMAL VOTE IS NOT TAKEN, U.S. DEL CAN, OF COURSE, CLEARLY STATE OPPOSITION AS MATTER OF RECORD.

8. ISSUE WILL COME UP 3/18 BUT PROBABLY CAN CONVINCE MOST DELEGATIONS TO DEFER DECISION PENDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS.

9. INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED SOONEST. VOLPE

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